



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Released: October 2, 2009

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Idaho Onion Production

Onion acreage harvested in Idaho is estimated at 8,800 acres, a 2 percent increase from last year, but 3 percent lower than 2007, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Yield is estimated at 740 cwt per acre, an increase of 3 percent from last year, but a decrease of 1 percent from 2007. Production increased 5 percent from last year to 6.51 million cwt. As of September 27, 82 percent of the state's onions had been harvested. This is above the five-year average of 68 percent. Malheur County is expected to have an onion production of 8.64 million cwt, down slightly from last year. The yield for Malheur County is estimated at 720 cwt and acreage harvested is estimated at 12,000 acres.

Nationally, summer storage onion production is forecast at 57.2 million cwt, up 3 percent from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 104,410 acres, down 1 percent from 2008. The yield, at 548 cwt per acre, is up 25 cwt from last year. In California, the storage onion crop is progressing well due to ideal temperatures. No major disease problems were reported. In Colorado, harvest was a week behind schedule due to wet fields. In Michigan, harvest began in mid-August and was in full swing by mid-September. In New York, excessive moisture resulted in some loss of acreage due to abandonment. Oregon onion harvest was complete by the last week of September. Wisconsin experienced a cool and dry growing season during the early part of the year, then slightly warmer conditions later in the season.

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